

CITY OF THE ROSES

A Day Amid Flowers at Santa Rosa.

SONOMA AND SURROUNDINGS

Prof. Swensberg Describes His Visit to a Valley Resplendent in Fallage and in Productions.

[LETTER NO. XXX.]

One of the first things the eastern tourist hears when he turns his face toward the land of the setting sun, is about the "City of Roses."

On our arrival at Santa Rosa, we were taken into the carriage which were in readiness for our party. A drive through and about this city of flowers, wide and well-regulated streets were greatly enjoyed by our party. After the drive we were ushered through gates and banks of flowers into the beautiful opera house, where we faced the grandest floral display seen on our journey. This was a most thoughtful of enjoyment, because of its peculiar nature, being so different from anything that we might have expected to see in the shape of a floral display. The stage was covered with flowers, artistically laid out in the shape of a beautiful garden, with beds of flowers, ferns, etc. A large, white, life-sized bear, which was the polar bear himself, made of pure white roses, stood on this beautiful Alhambra stage garden in his life-like form. In the background on another part of the stage stood a black bear, made of dark flowers. In the front center of the stage stood a long floral ladder, reaching from the bottom to the scenery left and on top of this ladder was a magnificent floral piece, made of variegated flowers, representing a pruned newspaper.

Speeches and Banquet.

After the welcome address by the mayor of Santa Rosa, which was happily responded to by the Hon. W. S. Carpenter of Massfield, O., president of the National Editorial association, we were escorted into the large and beautiful entertainment hall, which is connected with the opera. Again we were greeted by a beautiful floral display and delightful music. A magnificent supper had been provided for the hungry journalists by the women of Santa Rosa. At every place we found a new surprise, never two scenes nor two entertainments alike. This being the case we cannot write two letters alike. Santa Rosa will ever be remembered for its generous and friendly hospitality, its large and beautiful roses and last, but not least, its women, even more beautiful than the roses themselves.

Santa Rosa is the county seat of Sonoma county, it is central, the most populous and wealthiest of Sonoma county. It is appropriately distinguished as the City of Roses, the prettiest, most cleanly and charmingly located of all the interior cities of California. Besides the imposing public buildings it has its ornate and elegant homes, with lawns, with tastefully laid out grounds, stylish residences, with neat gardens, walks and lawns, with front yards in tasteful cultivation and ornamented by large varieties of flowers. It has its fine shady streets and walks of broad blocks and macadamized and paved streets. The drive in and about the city are delightful and superb.

From the well graded winding roads of the Sonoma hills down into the valley of Santa Rosa the scene view is an endless panoramic treat, a feast to the eye and food for the mind. All seems to be of enchanting natural beauty, with fruitful cultivation throughout the broad valley to add a gratifying sense to the charm of the outlook of trees and farms, orchards, vineyards, hop fields and luxuriant vegetation.

Activity of the People.

At a distance are the peaks of eternal snow, the glistening rivers and streams in the bright sunlight. We see activity on every hand, the puffing engines and flowing trains in graceful windings round the hills, through the valleys, with every token of life and occupation, business and prosperity.

Santa Rosa valley is the outspread in every sense of the City of Roses. Everything indicates cleanliness and healthfulness. Santa Rosa has a population of about 7,000; it is a beautiful little city of homes. It has various manufacturing enterprises, but fruit and wine are its prominent industries.

The court house and ornamental plaza, the city hall and hall of records, the public free library and department buildings are of tasteful architecture. The court house is a magnificent building, classic in design and built of stone, granite, brick and iron. It is built in the form of a Greek cross and has a dome on which stands the figure of Minerva. There are four pediments, each surmounted by a figure of the goddess. We did not learn the cost, but we know it is a great structure. Most all public buildings we have seen are built on a full square within four streets and on raised ground in the center of the square; the ground elevation sets the building off in fine shape. Every public building should occupy a whole square; this is a superior principle. Grand Rapids has made its buildings do not show what they are.

Santa Rosa has its beautiful churches of all denominations. The Pacific Methodist college, the Ursuline convent, the seminary for young women, and other institutions of the kind are located here, giving good educational advantages. A spacious garden park, with fine and appropriate buildings, handsomely ornamented, affords delightful entertain-

ment. The Alhambra theater and other social halls are well supported.

On to Petaluma.

But we must take leave of the "City of Roses" and pass on to Petaluma, which is second to Santa Rosa in population, trade and industry. It is a town of thrift and local wealth. Petaluma is at the head of navigation and the chief shipping point for the county. It is the center of the butter and dairy trade of the coast. The Seventh Day Adventist college is located here, besides other schools, as well as a variety of manufacturing establishments. San Pablo bay and Petaluma creek are said to be invaluable to this portion of the state in transportation matters. Daily steamboats and sailing craft ply to and from San Francisco at rates much cheaper than by rail. Petaluma has a silk factory, and woolen mills, fruit canneries and other manufacturing establishments.

Sonoma is the oldest town in northern California, the oldest of the pueblos north of San Francisco bay, founded before the American possession by native Californians. The well known General Valle was its founder, here he established his military quarters and made it his home.

Sonoma was chosen as the most favorable for vineyards and Colonel Harsh planted the first vineyard in California, with cuttings of his own selections in France, Germany and Hungary. General Joe Hooker, "Fighting Joe" of the Union army, settled in Sonoma shortly after his resignation from the army. We were told that he was not successful as a farmer.

Sonoma as a Resort.

Sonoma was at one time the noted resort of visitors from all parts of the country. It is now a town of every going trade, with vineyards, wineries and orchards of every variety. There are many beautiful little towns along the line, but time and space will not admit of descriptions and so we pass them by, at least for the time being. In the front center of the stage stood a long floral ladder, reaching from the bottom to the scenery left and on top of this ladder was a magnificent floral piece, made of variegated flowers, representing a pruned newspaper.

Cloverdale is nestled amidst the lofty hills and nature's choicest covering. There are mountains beyond in every direction. Neat dwellings, fine lawns, beautiful gardens denote the domestic comfort and the prosperity of the people. In general, these towns merit the reputation they enjoy, as being foremost in every quality which attract the visiting people. It now becomes the duty of every town to keep itself clean and in good trim in order to be admired and talked about by visitors and passers-by.

Sonoma and Its Fruits.

Sonoma is justly celebrated for the variety, abundance and excellence of earth's products, the early fruits of the temperate zone and the citrus fruits of the semi-tropical climes, the staple vegetables of every season of the year and the desirable growth of special season berries of every kind, melons, grapes and nuts. From every point within the county bounds and to the distant borders, the visitor is attracted by picturesque scenery and gratified with the many tokens of fertile soil and improved cultivation. Every hill bears evidence of the industry and every farm presents manifestation of the care and thrift of the possessors of the soil. The valleys are examples of natural loveliness and enlightenment of cultivation. Luxuriant meadows and broad pastures of hills and valley on which grass, the horse and rocks and doves, betoken the attention given to pastoral pursuits, and the aggregate wealth derived therefrom. In every quality and capacity, in industry and enterprise, in activity and progress, Sonoma is in the advanced line.

Fame of Old Sonoma.

"Old Sonoma" is the familiar title of admiring recognition of an exemplary condition and of the oldest in agricultural distinction in California. Its citizens are among the foremost in progress, in genuine enterprise and substantial improvements. With bay and ocean upon either side, and the valleys reaching to bases of lofty mountain ridges, amply watered from never failing flowing streams and reasonable rains never troubled by flood nor devastated by violent storms; exempted from damaging snows and killing cold; helped with an equable temperature which never sinks to zero nor rises to oppressive heat, but is pleasantly varied with the seasons throughout the year the appellation, "Old Sonoma," is merited as is that of the "grand old man" admirably applied to the vigorous veteran and popular idol of his countrymen.

Sonoma worthily wears and with becoming modesty bears the allotted and proud distinction. Her citizens have daily contributed to the fame and prosperity of the golden state, they have been conspicuous in the affairs of the state and gratefully honored by their fellow citizens and returned therefore their grateful acknowledgments from the amplitude of her territorial domain. Sonoma has freely apportioned the vast acres with judiciously adjusted donning counties and towns, but of which we have not time to speak. She divides yet surprisingly holds her own in rank and honors, the chief county of California, with Santa Rosa, the Flower City, the gem of California island cities. With good wine country and write next on San Jose and Monterey.

C. G. S.

Spiritual Association.
The Grand Rapids Spiritual association will occupy Kennedy hall for the present, until a building can be erected, as a site has already been selected. The first regular services of the association will commence on next Sunday—morning and evening. Frank T. Ripley of Philadelphia, the noted test medium and lecturer, has been engaged for the months of September and October. W. J. Colville of Boston to follow for November and December.

Second Ward Caucus.
The caucus to nominate candidates for school trustees in the Second ward will be held at 7:30 P. M. at Wagon Bros. & Co's office, room No. 11, Widdowson building.

William Widdowson, D. E. Peck, Thomas Henderson, John H. Henderson, G. N. Wainwright.

Endorsed Mr. Brinkman.
Benjamin F. Brinkman, who for the past three years has been employed in the G. R. & L. local freight office, and now is with Marsh H. Sorrick, city treasurer, has been endorsed as a candidate for school trustee of the Twelfth ward.

W. K. Ketter, H. Hansen, Committee.

Both Want the Office.
Supervisor C. E. Houshorne of the Ninth ward is holding for the democratic nomination for county clerk. Thus far two candidates for that office have developed, Deputy Clerk Carpenter being the second.

IT'S A HEAVY CROP

Peaches Were Never More Abundant

THAN THEY ARE THIS SEASON

Immense Shipments by Rail—The Apple Crop Will Also Be Exceptionally Large.

Already this season nearly 4,000 bushels of early peaches have found buyers in the local market. They have mostly been Hale's Early, of fair quality.

The first freestone peaches of the season were marketed yesterday morning, and were in good demand. The late peaches will be in about the latter part of next week, and the quality will be much better than that of the earlier varieties. The yellow peaches will bring much better prices than the earlier crops, as they are freestones, and are better for canning than the earlier peaches.

C. N. Whitney, secretary for the West Michigan Fair association, said yesterday to a reporter for The Herald: "I estimate that the total crop in Michigan will be about 300,000 bushels of peaches, 5,000 bushels of plums and 1,500,000 pounds of grapes. The crop of apples and pears will be very light in the state. About September 10 Crane's Yellow and Honey Joans will be in the market in abundance, and about September 15 Early Crawford and Early Barnards will be ready for the market."

You might impress your readers with the quality of the apples.

We may make mention in our review of purchasing peaches early in the season.

They very often put it off until the best ones are all shipped, and then having no peaches for canning, they rush in and buy anything, when a few days before they could have bought better peaches for less money.

S. S. Bailey's Farm.

I visited S. S. Bailey's peach farm yesterday and helped pick some of his later peaches which were marketed today. He has about ten acres there and I should estimate that his crop would be about 3,000 bushels. No, this is not a particularly good yield, but the quality is excellent.

Peaches this year are not as large as usual, owing to the trees being over-loaded, but the quality is as good as the average. Farmers, as a general rule, are well pleased with the outlook.

M. W. Rose, assistant general freight agent for the C. & W. M. and D. L. & N., in talking about the fruit shipments over those roads said: "No, we are having very few peaches as yet, but expect that in a week or so we'll have plenty. We are, however, handling about four cars daily from Pentwater, four cars from Fennville and about as many more from other places."

I have been preparing some statistics regarding the apple crop in Michigan and I am surprised at the quantity reported for movement, especially on the northern division. I have sent out thirty-two letters to agents along the line asking for reports, but as yet have received but eight or ten replies.

Charlevoix will have from 40,000 to 50,000 barrels, Traverse City 10,000 barrels and the little inland town of Williamsburg will have 6,000 barrels. In most of the interior places along the line the apple crop is almost an entire failure and this is especially true of the crop along the C. & W. M. below Holland. Most of the apples, like the peaches, go to Chicago and western points.

In the Hotels.

Morton—A. A. Jack, Detroit; Fred Williams, Jackson; A. B. Eldridge, Marquette; W. M. Slosson, Reed City; H. S. Seago, Lansing; W. M. Carpenter, Muskegon; C. W. Sessions, Muskegon; M. Brown, Big Rapids; R. C. Bailey, Rodney; J. C. Ford, Fruitport; S. R. Hulbert, Battle Creek; R. P. Kingman, Battle Creek; F. R. Kingman, Battle Creek; John Walker and son, Detroit; L. E. Chaplain, Detroit.

Seed—J. D. McConkey, Battle Creek; B. T. Halstead, Petoskey; H. F. Strong, Jackson; William Steele, Ionia; A. H. Wilson, Detroit; G. F. Kinney, Jackson; John Oxnard, Detroit; T. J. Miller, Kalamazoo; W. H. Bush, Detroit; William Wilson, Detroit; J. B. Graves, Benton Harbor; K. A. Meth, Lansing.

New Livingston—James R. Clark, St. Joseph; H. W. Fillibrown, Detroit; H. F. Swern, Kalamazoo; N. B. Halbert, Grand Haven; Ned Boyer, Muskegon; R. Guasche, Grand Haven; Fred Miller, Detroit; W. G. Thomas, Detroit; J. E. Clark, Big Rapids; T. C. Thompson, Ionia; H. W. Brown, Ionia; L. J. Newton, Cadillac; T. H. Goff, Kalamazoo.

Eagle—Silas Clark, Albion; P. P. Davis, Detroit; S. H. Field, Ballard; S. A. Nickerson, Cedar Springs; W. C. Lovejoy, Cedar Springs; Chris Sherman, Cedar Springs; R. M. Smith, Cedar Springs; Charles Oldfield, Cedar Springs; B. Vinton and wife, Williamsburg; R. J. Flannigan, Lowell; J. A. Flannigan, Lowell; Homer Freeland, Caledonia; C. F. Prescott and wife, Rockford; J. E. Smith, Corunna; Thomas Metcalf, Holland.

Clarendon—J. J. Robertson, Baldwin; J. T. Gould, Rockford; P. Hagermore, Detroit; William Steele, Ionia; F. S. Smith, Coopersville; T. F. Davis, Detroit; James Vosper, Daniel Steele, A. R. Grant, Ionia; C. C. Smith, Coopersville; George K. Sparks, Jackson.

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John Lind, Muskegon; George H. Brown, Saginaw; F. Martin, Gratiot; W. H. Goodspeed, Detroit.

Who Will Answer?

Enthusiasm—It would like to ask, as a disinterested observer of the recent election of a commander of the Second Michigan regiment, if any member was or was not influenced by the Patriotic American containing a marked article, being sent to each member of the company containing Colonel McDarrin for the position he so well deserved, simply because he believes what he thinks is right. The outcome looks very much as if it did. When a war is on hand and a commander that can command as well as fight is wanted, when bullets are fired with a deadly purpose, as the ballot of a "patriotic son" is cast, would they relegate the defeated colonel to the rear? I think not. The "patriotic" comrades would then all cast their votes to send him to the front to fight while they remained at home and voted to keep him there for a friendly bullet to get thoroughly acquainted with him and finish the patriotic drama entitled, "Hit him with a Vote in Peace, a bullet in War." Socially, religiously and politically, it matters but very little, but when they enter the military organizations of America with apparent success it is time to kick.

JOHN SCALLY.

Merry's Turn Now.

Johnny, aged four, and Harry, aged five, had been left at home with their sister, neither having gone out. When bedtime came they wanted to stay up for mother and it was hard work to get them to bed. Harry maintained a stolid indifference, but Johnny cried lustily.

Their sister listened at the bottom of the stairs, hoping that they would soon be good.

At last Johnny stopped and the listener heard him say:

"You cry, Harry. I'm tired."—Boston Globe.

A Prospective Prodigy.

The New York Dramatic Mirror is responsible for the statement that Miss Elyng has a pupil studying the legitimate drama of whom she predicts great things. She will make her appearance on the stage some time in the course of the next year. Miss Elyng says "she will be the brightest, most beautiful and the youngest Juliet that has ever appeared on the stage." This prospective prodigy is now but fourteen years of age.

Drawing the Line.

Even the most punctilious person doesn't object to a house built on sand if it happens to be a cottage at a seaside resort.—Washington Star.

Too Much.

He had wealth that was unlimited, but there never was a strife Among the girls to capture him, For he ate pie with his knife.

—Chicago Inter Ocean.

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